

right. That means the Defense Acquisition System needs to prove that its selection process understands capabilities-based evaluation and appropriately weighs the system's key performance parameters. Otherwise, we'll never know whether the competition was a true competition and whether our warfighters have received the best possible capability.

TRIBUTE TO CINDY CREAMER

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Col. Cindy Creamer, a thirty-year veteran of the City of Takoma Park Police Department, on the occasion of her retirement. As an officer and police chief, Col. Creamer has worked tirelessly over the past three decades to ensure the safety and security of Takoma Park residents, and her dedication to this vital task deserves our sincere gratitude and appreciation.

Sworn in as a police officer on her 21st birthday, Chief Creamer served in every division of the Takoma Park Police Department. She began her career as a Communications Dispatcher in 1976, then went on to serve in and eventually command both the patrol and criminal investigation divisions. Chief Creamer was selected as Officer of the Year in 1980 while serving as a patrol officer, and she received the honor again in 1990 for her criminal investigating skills. As the first female sergeant and lieutenant in the agency, she received numerous other honors, including Supervisor of the Year.

Chief Creamer has served the residents of the City of Takoma Park and Montgomery County with dedication and commitment. She has made a difference in the quality of life throughout our county. Although she is retiring from active duty on the Takoma Park police force, I am delighted that Chief Creamer will continue to serve our community as deputy chief for patrol at the WSSC Police Department. I am confident that her many years of active experience will ensure her success in this role.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to represent Chief Cindy Creamer in the U.S. Congress and to extend my congratulations and thanks to her for her service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO THE REV. G. VINCENT LEWIS, CHIEF MINISTERIAL OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE PASTOR OF ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CAROL CITY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of our community's most outstanding and experienced church leaders, the Rev. G. Vincent Lewis, Executive Pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. The members and supporters of the congregation celebrated the 30th Anniversary of his pastorate on Sunday, July 23, 2006, in a happy

event held at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Carol City.

Rev. Lewis represents the vocation of a Good Shepherd who attends to his flock in ways we can never fathom. As Executive Pastor and Chief Ministerial Officer, he exudes the knowledge and pragmatism of a man who is capable of making good things happen in the corporal world while also teaching the ways of God. He has tirelessly worked to enlighten our community on the agenda of spiritual wisdom and good governance impacting our duties and responsibilities to the less fortunate.

Rev. Lewis' timely and persevering leadership at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Carol City is genuinely commendable. As a man of God and as a community leader, he has indeed earned our deepest respect and admiration.

We congratulate Reverend Lewis and thank him for his many years of service in the Vineyard of the Lord. He continues to teach us to live by the noble ethic of loving God and by serving our fellow human beings, and our fervent hope is for his continued health and success as he begins his fourth decade of service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND RESPONSE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Community Protection and Response Act of 2006 to eliminate confusion in terrorist prevention and response.

One of the major lessons learned in the aftermath of the September 11th attacks is that timely response is critical. Any delay complicates short-, medium-, and long-term recovery efforts. Sadly, many of the lessons that we have learned have gone without an appropriate response.

In response to the attacks of September 11th, Congress took a series of actions to bring relief to affected areas. These legislative actions along with existing statutes, including the Robert T. Stafford Relief and Emergency Act and the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, formed the framework for the Federal Government's response. The magnitude of the attacks and the need for Congress to take action before certain relief could be delivered added to the challenge of the recovery efforts and exposed critical weaknesses in Federal authority to respond.

The Community Protection and Response Act would amend the Stafford Act along with other statutes and would give the President a series of policy options to choose from following a homeland security event. A homeland security event is defined as an event that poses a significant risk to the security of people and property and is in such a magnitude that effective response is beyond the scope and capability of the affected State and local government. Many of these options are based on congressional action following September 11th or other policy suggestions in reports by the Congressional Research Service, the General Accounting Office and the New York branch of the Federal Reserve. Specifically, in

the event of a homeland security event, the President can provide grants for lost tax revenue, aid to school systems, and assistance to medical facilities and utility companies. The bill also establishes guidelines to ensure the public health of area residents and disaster workers.

Specifically this legislation would do the following:

COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND RESPONSE ACT OF 2006 (CPR)

EXPANSION OF DEFINITIONS IN THE STAFFORD ACT/
AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING STATUTES

1. Expands the definition of "major disaster" to include terrorist attacks, dispersions of radioactive or other contaminants, dispersion of hazardous substances, or other catastrophic event.

2. In the event of a homeland security event expands definition to include private for-profit utilities (including power, water, telecommunications and phone services).

3. Defines "Homeland Security Event" as a major disaster that poses a significant risk to the people and property of the Nation and it is such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capability of the affected State and local government. Designation requested by Governor and made by President.

4. Changes definition of critical services to include education systems, providers of counseling assistance, and providers of assistance to the homeless.

5. Removes \$5 million restriction for loans as a result of lost taxes or other revenues. Forgives interest in the event of a Homeland Security Event.

6. Removes requirement of "direct" impact for assistance.

HOMELAND SECURITY EVENTS NEW AUTHORITIES GIVEN
TO THE PRESIDENT

After declaration, the President is authorized, but not required, to do the following:

1. Establish a coordinating office and appoint a Disaster Recovery Director.

2. Reimburse State and local governments to respond to high security alerts.

3. Provide grants to local governments which may suffer a loss of tax and other revenues.

4. Reimburse school systems for lost instructional time, mental health and trauma counseling and clean up cost.

5. Authorizes EPA to perform all indoor air testing and undertake remedial actions.

STANDARDS AND REPORTING

Directs OMB to establish standards for reporting disaster relief efforts regarding each agency that assists in disaster relief efforts following a homeland security event. Reports such data to Congress.

MONITORING OF HEALTH RISKS

1. Instructs President to appoint a special commission to study the authorities available to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) following a homeland security event. Including the monitoring of the environment.

2. Works with the EPA and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to develop guidelines regarding health risks for affected areas and instructs the CDC to provide information in the case of biological materials.

3. Provides for standardization, rapid collection and analysis, and communication following a homeland security event.

4. Authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make awards to private